

order to establish early warning signals for detection of disease outbreaks and take timely and appropriate action, the National Disease Surveillance Programme for Communicable Diseases is currently in operation in 80 districts of the country. This is proposed to be extended to the entire country during the 10th Plan period.

Recommendations of ICMR regarding marketing of drugs

1562. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research, last year, recommended marketing of the drugs under strict supervision;

(b) the salient recommendations of the ICMR;

(c) whether Government have implemented the same;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. ICMR recommended the marketing of the following three drugs during the last year without stipulating any special conditions:

1. Somatuline P.R. 30 mg. (prolonged release microspheres of lanreotide acetate).
2. Oral Contraceptive containing the fixed dose combination of Desogestrel and Ethinyl Estrodiol.
3. Interferon alpha 2b and Ribavirin (combi-packs).

(c) to (e) Does not arise in view of (a) & (b) above. These drugs are required to be marketed under the general norms pertaining to sale of drugs under the Drugs & Cosmetics Rules.

Diabetes affected children in Delhi

1563. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether diabetes has affected 5000 to 6000 children in Delhi;

(b) whether the cost of insulin strips is high;

(c) whether Government intend to bring down the cost of this drug; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to contain diabetes which affects the eyes of the affected persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) According to Government of Delhi, the incidence of Diabetes in children has been noticed. However, their exact number in Delhi is not known.

Prices of insulin strips are not regulated by NPPA. However "insulin drug" is a Scheduled Drug listed under DPCO, 1995 and therefore its price is regulated by NPPA, which has informed that some of the leading companies have agreed to supply insulin formulations at special (discounted rate) prices for poor and needy patients through Hospitals and Institutions.

Diabetes treatment is done at all levels in the rural health care delivery system and urban health care institutions. There are also around 100 government Medical Colleges in the country, besides premiere institutions like All India Institute of Medical Sciences, which provides both secondary and tertiary diabetes management facilities. A pilot project on Strengthening of Bio-Chemical Laboratories and Quality Assurance, was initiated in 1999-2000 in the States of Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal & Punjab. The National Diabetes Control Programme has now been merged with the Indian Council of Medical Research which has constituted as Expert Group to formulate a revised comprehensive Plan of action to control diabetes.

Identification of hot spot districts for HIV

1564. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National AIDS Control Organisation has identified a number of districts in different States as hot spot for HIV;

(b) if so, the hot spot districts so identified State-wise; and

(c) the action plan, if any, worked to effectively control HIV, indicating phase-wise targets thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The hot spot districts identified State-wise are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) Government of India has launched a comprehensive National AIDS Control Programme (Phase-II) with the following by key components.